

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army
Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore
District

In Reply to Application Number
CENAB-OP-RMS(WSSC/ROCK CREEK RELIEF
SEWER/UTILITYLINE)02-64956-11

Comment Period:

November 5, 2002 to November 26, 2002

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as described below:

APPLICANT: WASHINGTON SANITARY SUBURBAN COMMISSION
Attn: Anne McNulty
14501 Sweitzer Lane - 5th Floor
Laurel, Maryland 20707

LOCATION: Wetlands adjacent to Rock Creek, Montgomery County, Maryland

WORK: To install a relief 42-inch trunk sewerline, temporarily impacting approximately 2.3 acres of jurisdictional wetlands adjacent to and mostly parallel to Rock Creek and 765 linear feet of stream channel, in Montgomery County. The trunk-line will cross Rock Creek twice and cross Turkey Branch near its confluence with Rock Creek. The project purpose is to relieve the existing 24- and 42-inch sewerlines that are operating at capacity and currently overflow into Rock Creek. Portions of the 24-inch sewer line are also currently exposed. The relief line is being placed 25-feet from the existing 48-inch line as measured from centerline to centerline of each sewerline. This is the minimum distance between lines to prevent compromising the existing 48-inch line and WSSC's work corridor will be 50-feet. These factors keep this project within most, if not all, of the original limits of disturbance for the 24- and 42-inch lines that were constructed in the early 50's and early 60's respectively. Upon completion of this project, the 24-inch line will be abandoned. At the northern-most portion of the project, the relocation of the 12-inch line has no impacts to Waters of the U.S. The old 12-inch line will be removed, temporarily impacting approximately 175 LF of this unnamed tributary. The relief sewer has been designed to accomodate the build-out conditions for the Rock Creek Basin.

All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact George Harrison at (410) 962-6002.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Maryland Department of the Environment. Any written comments concerning the work described above which relate to water quality certification must be received by the Standards and Certification Division Maryland Department of the Environment, Building 30, First Floor, 2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore, Maryland 21224 within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. The 401 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year to make its decision.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

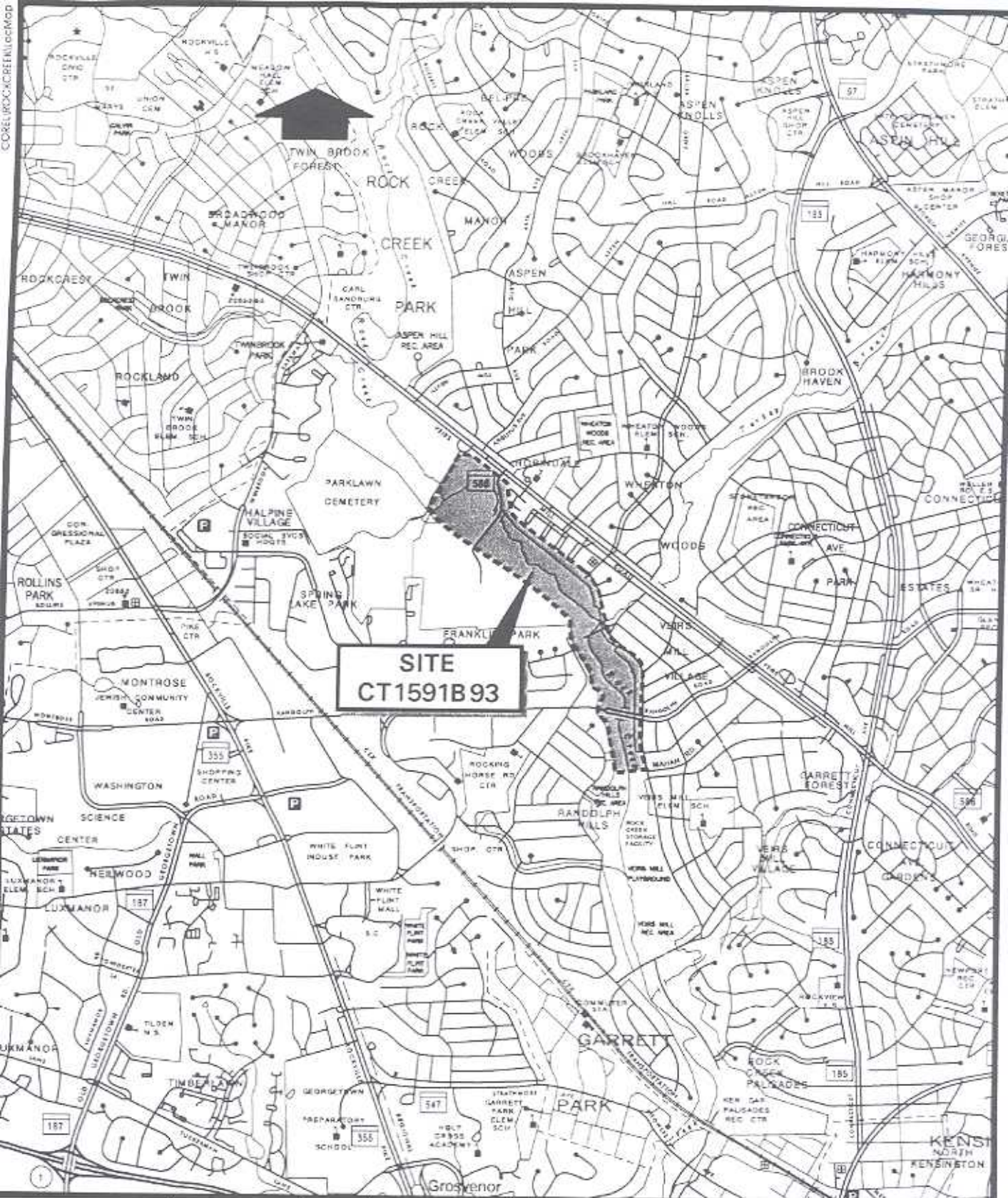
Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified as above to receive consideration. Also, it must clearly state forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity in the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:


WALTER S. HYATT
Chief, Maryland Section Southern



KEY MAP



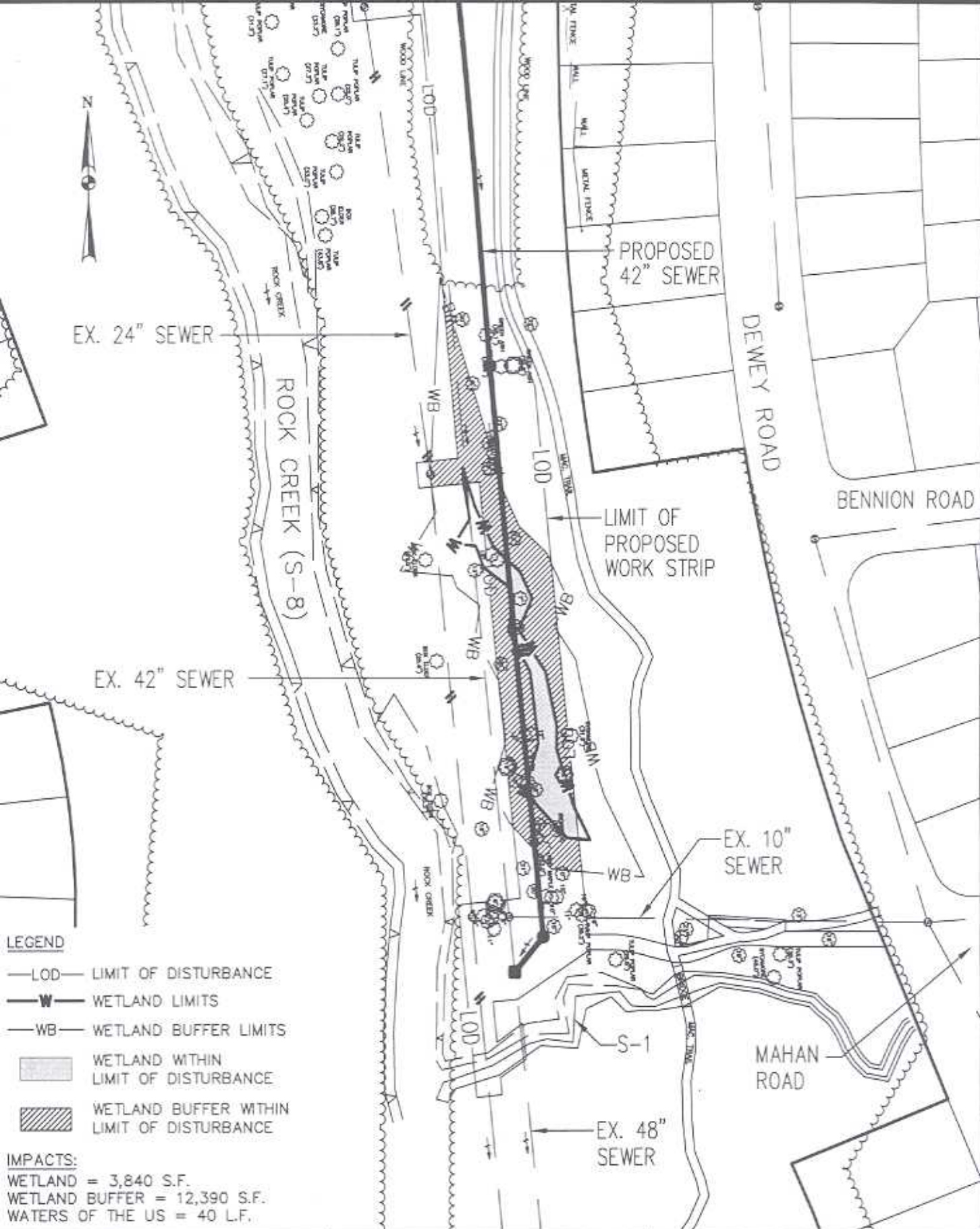
Rock Creek Relief/Replacement Sewer
Contract No. CT1591B93
Design Criteria Report

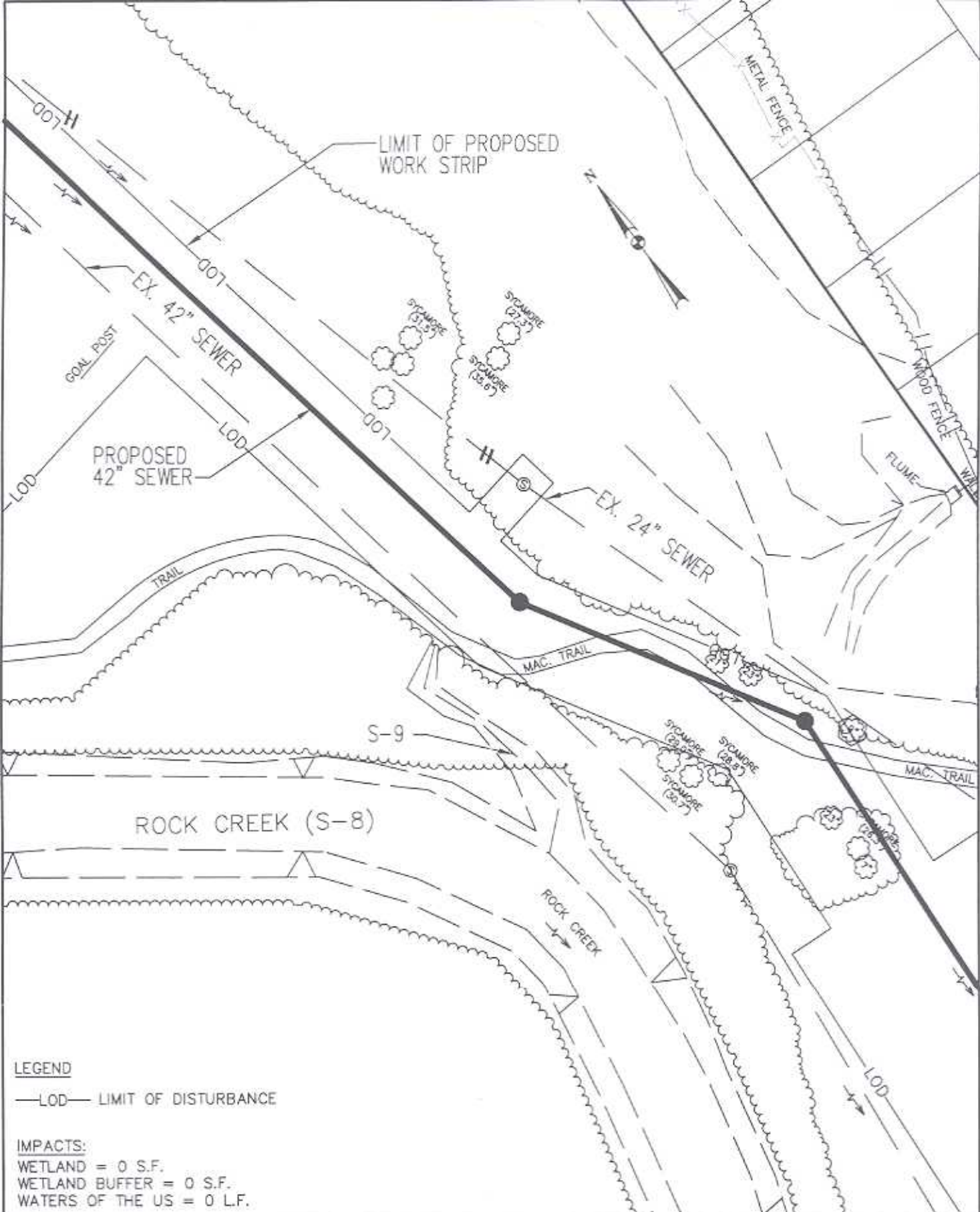
LOCATION MAP

DATE
Dec., 2001



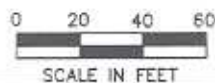
FIGURE
1



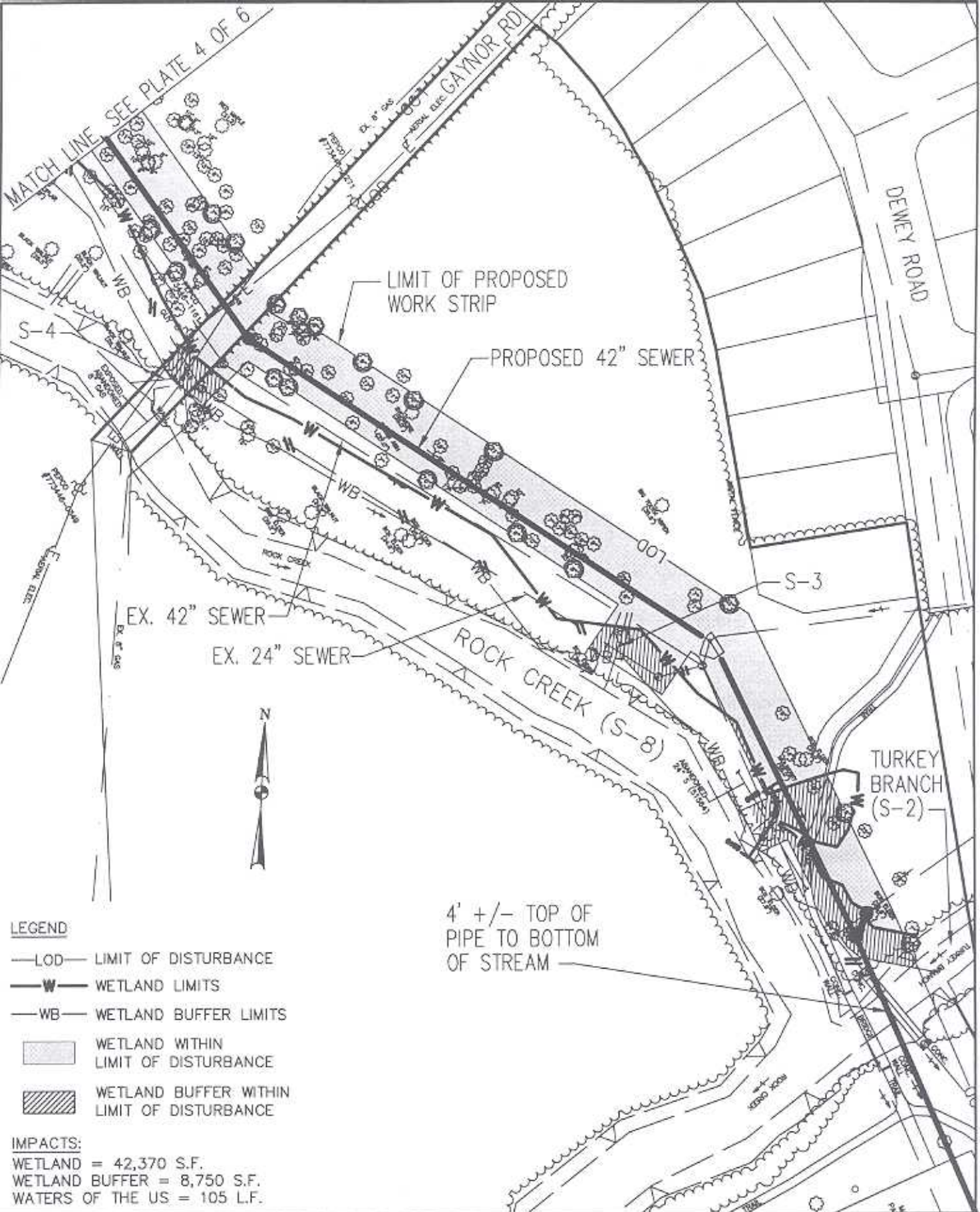


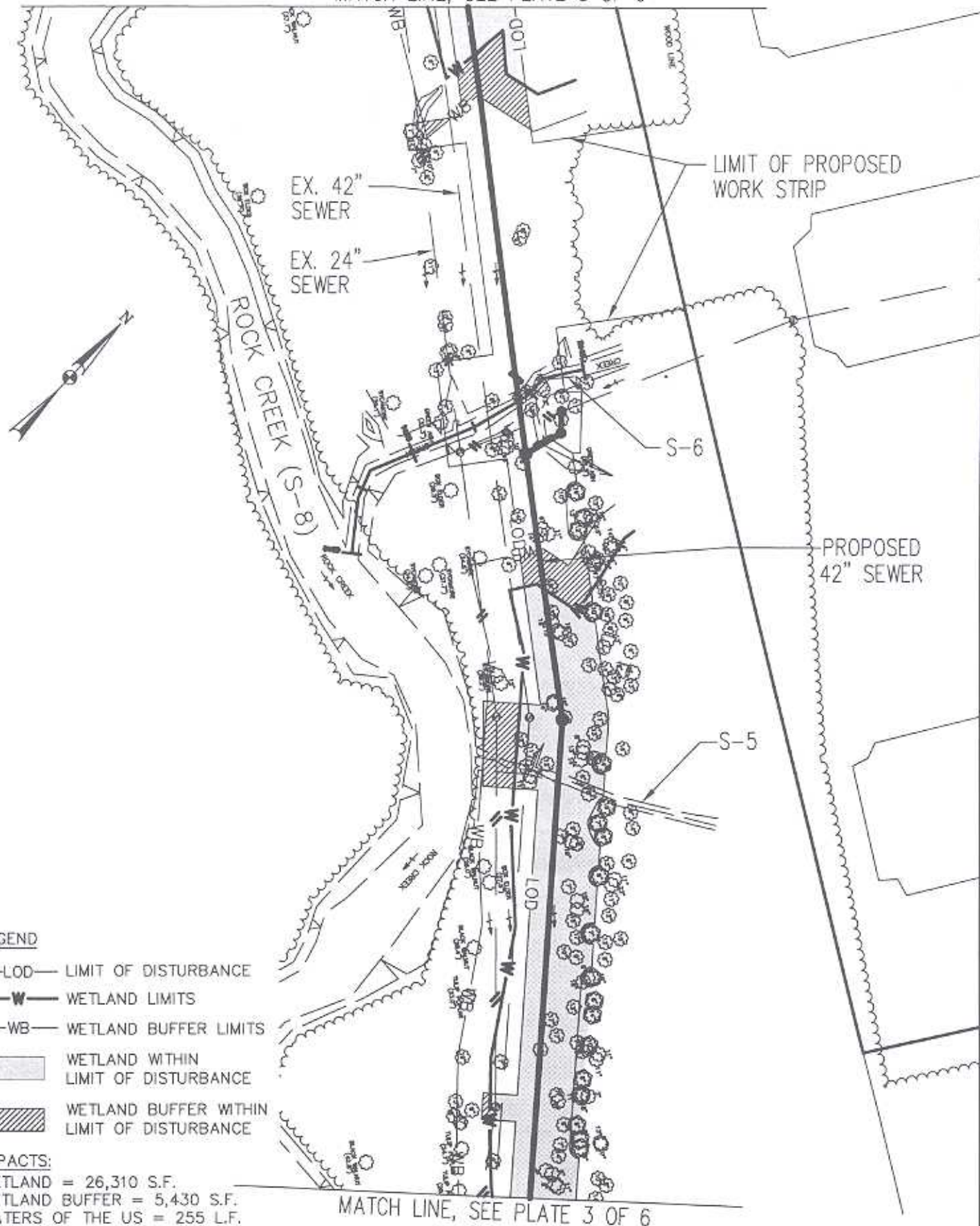
WETLAND 2

PLAN VIEW



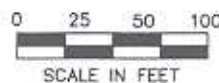
ON: ROCK CREEK
 COUNTY: MONTGOMERY
 STATE: MD
 APPLICATION BY: W.S.S.C.
 CONTRACT: CT1591B93
 PLATE 2 OF 6 DATE: OCTOBER, 2002



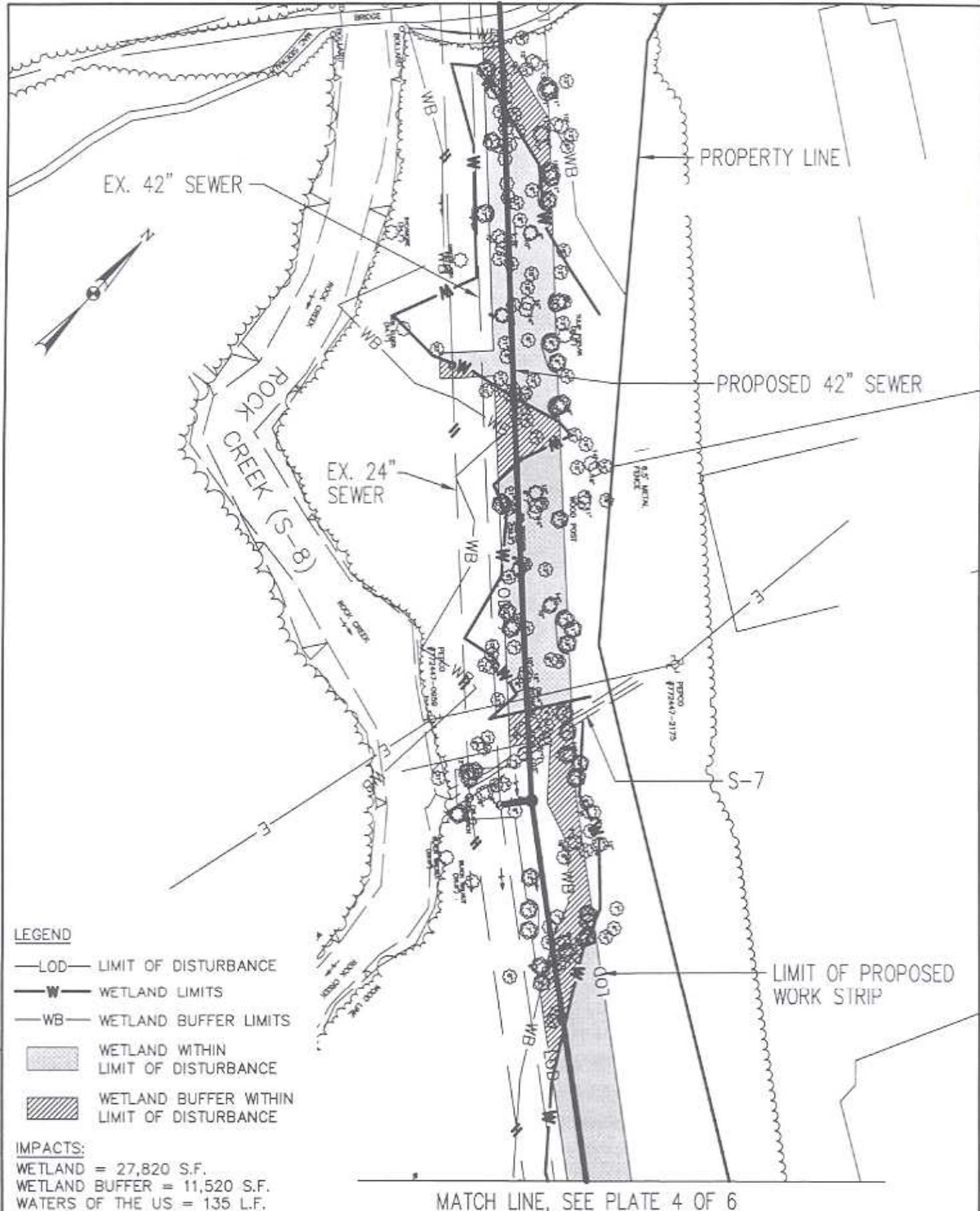


WETLAND 3

PLAN VIEW



ON: ROCK CREEK
 COUNTY: MONTGOMERY
 STATE: MD
 APPLICATION BY: W.S.S.C.
 CONTRACT: CT1581B93
 PLATE 4 OF 6 DATE: OCTOBER, 2002



WETLAND 3

PLAN VIEW

0 25 50 100



SCALE IN FEET

ON: ROCK CREEK
 COUNTY: MONTGOMERY
 STATE: MD
 APPLICATION BY: W.S.S.C.
 CONTRACT: CT1591B93
 PLATE 5 OF 6 DATE: OCTOBER, 2002

